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October 16, 2002



Ms. Gwen Zervas, P.E.
Case Manager
Bureau of Federal Management
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
401 East State Street
P.O. Box 028
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

RE: Ventron-Velsicol Superfund Site

RI/FS Progress Report – September 2002

Dear Ms. Zervas:

This Progress Report has been prepared in accordance with Section 4.2 of the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Work Plan (February 9, 1996), which was approved by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) on March 19, 1996. This Progress Report summarizes activities which took place during September 2002, and describes activities anticipated for October 2002.

## Activities Performed during the Reporting Period

The draft Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) and Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment (BERA) were submitted on April 27, 2001. Comments were received regarding the HHRA on September 21, 2001. A response to the HHRA comments was submitted on November 2, 2001. Comments to the November 2, 2001 response were received on May 24, 2002. A response to the May 24, 2002 comments was submitted on June 28, 2002.

The Agencies provided comments to the revised RI Report on February 2, 2001. Certain comments were addressed as part of the HHRA and BERA. A response to the remainder of the comments was submitted to the NJDEP in letter format on May 10, 2001. Comments regarding the May 10, 2001 response to comments were provided by the NJDEP on November 8, 2001, and were subsequently revised in correspondence, dated April 18, 2002. A response to the April 18, 2002 comments was submitted on May 22, 2002. In addition, a work plan for supplemental groundwater sampling and soil assessment was initially submitted on May 30, 2002, and was subsequently revised and resubmitted on June 11, 2002. On August 28, 2002, the Agencies provided comments and conditional approval to the May 22 and May 30, 2002 submittals.

Ms. Gwen Zervas, P.E. September 2002 RI/FS Progress Report Page 2

## **Summary of Findings**

No findings occurred during this reporting period.

## **Project Schedule Changes**

A revised RI/FS project schedule for OU1 was submitted to the Agencies on December 8, 2000. This schedule indicated that both Risk Assessments were to begin by December 1, 2000, and the Feasibility Study would be completed by June 2002. However, the schedule was subsequently revised during an October 21, 2001 conference call with the Agencies when it was agreed that the overall project schedule would likely be revised in the future.

Pursuant to the Agencies' April 18, 2002 RI Report comments, supplemental groundwater sampling and soil assessment will be performed. The scope of this investigative work was conditionally approved by the Agencies on August 28, 2002. The schedule for remaining OU1 RI/FS activities will be dependent on the results of the supplemental field investigation.

### Deliverables Submitted during the Reporting Period

The following was submitted during the reporting period.

• The monthly RI/FS Progress Report.

#### **Summary of Problems or Delays**

No problems or delays occurred during the reporting period.

## **Actions to Correct Problems or Delays**

No delays requiring corrective action occurred during the reporting period.

#### Work Planned for the Next Reporting Period

The following work is planned for the next reporting period.

- Field work for the supplemental groundwater sampling and soil assessment will begin.
- Begin to address any questions or comments received from the NJDEP regarding the BERA.

Ms. Gwen Zervas, P.E. September 2002 RI/FS Progress Report Page 3

# **Key Personnel Changes**

The services of Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. were terminated by The Velsicol Chemical Corporation, Fruit of the Loom and NWI. Activities formerly carried out by John Hock were assumed by Kenneth A. Walanski, P.E., of the Rohm and Haas Company.

## Changes in Scope of Work

No changes in the project scope occurred during this reporting period.

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Walanski, P.E. Remediation Projects Manager

Rohm and Haas Company

cc: Seth Ausubel – USEP Region II
Ron Lantzy – Rohm and Haas
J. Neglia – Borough of Wood-Ridge
Jay Steinberg – LePetomane II, Inc.
Tom Terp – Taft, Stettinius and Hollister

Matt Yunaska – Rohm and Haas Margie Bazany – Rohm and Haas